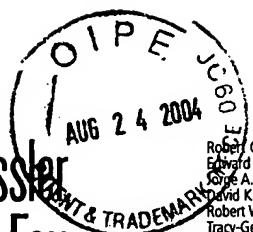




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Art Unit 2631

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/698,861; Filed: November 3, 2003
For: **Method Of and System For Optimizing The Capacity Of A Digital Communication System In Presence Of Both Internal And External Noise**

Inventors: PEETERS *et al.*
Our Ref: 1875.3660001

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Original, executed Power of Attorney from Assignee;
2. Original, executed Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) with a copy of the Assignment attached; and
3. One return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
August 24, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Evan R. Smith
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Registration No. 35,683

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Enclosures